

WYCOMBE BEAT THE BREEZES

By "ARGUS"

Wokingham Town 0;
Wycombe Wanderers 4.

THE amber and black flags which fluttered challengingly over Wokingham Town's Finchampstead - road ground were whipped into a frenzy of activity by the gale force winds greeting Wycombe Wanderers when they arrived for this postponed Berks and Bucks Senior Cup game. Those same winds wrecked any giant-killing hopes Wokingham might have entertained.

It would have taken an Eastham, a Haines or a Law to make the ball behave itself on such a day. Precision football was impossible but the Wanderers, showing up the major differences between Isthmian and Corinthian League soccer, came nearest to it.

They kept cool, calm and collected throughout and never allowed the inevitable mistakes and Wokingham's close marking to worry them for long.

Turning point was the 24th minute. With the breeze whistling straight into their teeth the gallant Corinthians were justifiably happy to be level at 0-0. "Wait until we have the wind behind us in the second half", chanted their supporters in the stand.

Suddenly a long Tomlin centre came skidding across the penalty area and Wokingham skipper and left-back Ray Harris ran in to meet it. "Hands," said referee Mr. E. A. Ruckley, pointing to the spot, although Harris and his team-mates were convinced the ball had hit the shoulder. Paul Bates rapped home the spot kick—and Wycombe never looked back.

CONFIDENT

Playing with great confidence, they led 3-0 at the break, Len Worley scoring a clever goal in the 30th minute, lobbing the ball impeccably over the head of goalkeeper Merryweather. And just on the stroke of half-time Tommy Holmes cantered past three defenders to score another beauty.

Wokingham were lucky to be still within striking distance. They were coralled in their own half for long spells of Wycombe attacking and had no answer to the skilful wanderings of Holmes or the scheming of Len Worley and Paul Bates.

Contrary to expectations, it was Wycombe who consistently looked the more dangerous in the second half although Town naturally had more of the play.

Wokingham could never control the errant ball, and steeple-tall Gus Whittam—who must be nearly as huge as Eddie Reynolds—must have been longing for Wycombe pivot John Fisher to disappear for a cup of tea.

Fisher was the dominating Wycombe defender, although Dennis Atkins was casualness, power and efficiency combined.

The entire Wycombe defence had a good game and Wokingham, for all their eagerness, could seldom get a clear shot at Ken Brown's goal.

After Bates had scored the fourth in the 65th minute, following a Holmes-Rockell left-wing move, Wycombe eased up considerably, assured of a fairly easy trip into the semi-final.

WYCOMBE GRAB THE CHANCES

Wokingham 0 Wycombe 4

WOKINGHAM, playing against a strong wind in the first half of this Berks and Bucks Senior Cup Third Round tie, had the ball in the Wycombe net soon after the start but the goal was disallowed for offside.

In the 24th minute Wycombe were awarded a penalty for hands by Harris and Bates made no mistake from the spot. The decision seemed a harsh one.

Len Worley increased Wycombe's lead when he drew Merryweather from goal and cleverly lobbed the ball over his head into the net.

Wokingham missed a great chance of scoring when winger Lunnon shot wide with Wycombe's goalkeeper out of position.

Wycombe took control again after this let-off and Rockell scored their third.

Wokingham had more of the game in the second half and Wycombe's defence was hard pressed. But Wycombe scored a fourth when Bates took a pass from Holmes to beat Merryweather.

Wokingham never gave up trying and the half-backs, Cook, Clacey, and Gale, sprayed passes to the forwards. But Wokingham lacked punch on the wings and many moves broke down as a result.

Cook was outstanding for Wokingham.